

State of New Hampshire DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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Ed Paradise Moose Hillock Campground Route 118 Warren, New Hampshire 03279

WMB PBF 02-56 August 29, 2002

Dear Mr. Paradise:

The Department of Environmental Services, Water Division ("DES") is required by RSA 485-A:26 to operate a program to ensure the health and safety of the public when using public bathing facilities such as pools and spas. To implement this program, DES has adopted administrative rules Env-Ws 1101-1105 to specify the design, operation, and maintenance requirements for public bathing facilities. DES reviews applications for new public bathing facilities and also inspects and tests the water in existing public bathing facilities to ensure that applicable requirements are being met.

On August 15, 2002, DES inspected the following public bathing facilities at the Moose Hillock Campground, in Warren, NH: the outdoor pool ("Pool") and wading pool ("Wader"). During this inspection the following deficiencies were noted:

A recommendation to close and super chlorinate the Pool was issued on August 15, 2002. The inspection on August 15, 2002 revealed that the Pool was in violation of Env-Ws 1103.14 and unsafe for public use. The following bacterial violations were observed in the Pool water:

- (a) Pursuant to Env-Ws 1103.14(a)(1) the maximum allowable concentration of total coliform bacteria and *Escherichia coli* in public bathing facility water is zero counts per one hundred milliliters (0CTS/100mL). The Pool water contained 4 CTS/100mL of total coliform bacteria.
- (b) Pursuant to Env-Ws 1103.14(a)(2) the maximum allowable Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC) in public bathing facility water is five hundred colony-forming units per one milliliter (500 cfu/mL). The Pool water contained 850 cfu/mL.
- 2 Env-Ws 1103.15(c) requires a free residual chlorine concentration between 1.0 mg/L and 3.0 mg/L in public pool water. The free chlorine residual of the Pool water was 0.35 mg/L on August 15, 2002.
- 3 Env-Ws 1103.15(d) requires a pH between 7.0 and 7.8 in public pool water. The pH of the Wader water was 6.7 on August 15, 2002.
- 4. Pursuant to Env-Ws 1103.15(a), disinfection of pool water shall be achieved by positive displacement pump type unit providing hypochlorination or by an erosion unit using either hypo-chlorite or bromine tablets with control of the erosion rate. The Wader is currently being disinfected by hand feeding.
- 5 Env-Ws 1104.01 requires the operator to test public bathing facility water for disinfectant residual, pH, and temperature prior to use of a public bathing facility and every 4 hours during operation, to record test results on a dated daily log sheet, and to maintain operational records for the previous twelve months and make these records available to DES and patrons of the public bathing facility upon request. No written records were available at the time of the inspection relative to the required testing of the Pool or Wader water.
- 6. Env-Ws 1104.04(a) requires the following safety devices to be present at all public pools: (1) a light, strong pole not less than 12 feet long, including a body hook, and (2) a minimum one-fourth inch diameter throwing rope as long as one and one-half times the maximum width of the pool or 50 feet, whichever is less, to which has been firmly attached a ring buoy with an outside diameter of approximately 15 inches or a similar flotation device. These safety devices were not present at the Pool at the time of inspection.
- 7. Pursuant to Env-Ws 1104.03(b), the operator shall be responsible for posting conspicuously displayed signs informing patrons of the DES rules relative to patron responsibilities (enclosed copy) and any other safety rules developed by the bathing facility management. Patron rules were not posted at the Pool at the time of the inspection.

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- 8. Pursuant to Env-Ws 1104.03(c), signs shall provide the location of the nearest telephone was not posted at the Pool at the time of the inspection.
- 9. Env-Ws 1104.03(e)(1) states that the depth of water in feet shall be plainly and conspicuously marked at or above the water line on the vertical pool wall and on the top of the coping or edge of the deck or walk next to the pool. The depth of the Pool was not marked on the Pool deck.
- 10. Pursuant to Env-Ws 1103.11, all outdoor swimming pools shall have a wall, fence or other enclosure constructed around the entire pool or recreational area, which shall include self-closing and self-latching gates and shall be a minimum of 4 feet high measured on the inside and outside. The enclosure surrounding the Pool does not include self-closing and latching gates.
- 1. Env-Ws 1105.01(k)(19) requires pool filtration systems to include a flow meter. The filtration systems for the Pool and Wader did not include flow meters.

A report outlining how compliance will be achieved with the cited deficiencies should be submitted to DES within 30 calendar days from receipt of this letter. The report should include the following:

- A copy of two weeks of water quality test results for all facilities (please do not send originals).
- 2. The type, manufacture, and model of the chlorine feeder to be installed.
- 3. The type, manufacture, and model of the flow meters to be installed.
- 4. A timetable of when:
 - a. the safety items will be in place,
 - b. the depth will be marked,
 - c. patron rules will be posted,
 - d. the installation of the chlorine feeder will be completed, and
 - e. the installation of the flow meters will be completed.

DES personnel will conduct another inspection at a later date to determine whether you have come into, and are maintaining, full compliance with RSA 485-A:26 and Env-Ws 1101-1105. After a violation of Env-Ws 1103.14, the facility will be required to pass two inspections in the following months. In the event that compliance is not achieved, DES may take further action, including seeking an administrative fine up to \$2,000 for each offense or referring the case to the NH Attorney General's Office for judicial action.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Please contact Amy Wilson at (603) 271-7108 if you have any questions regarding this letter. Copies of Env-Ws 1101-1105 are available through the DES Public Information Center at (603) 271-2975 or via the Internet at http://www.des.state.nh.us/pools/env1100.pdf.

Sincerely

Jody Connor

Limnology Center Director

enclosures

Mark Harbaugh, Enforcement Attorney, DES

Amy Wilson, Public Bathing Facility Coordinator, DES

Warren Town Health Officer, Town of Warren

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